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In re: Prabakaran et al.
Serial No.: 10/092,646
Filed: March 6, 2002
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Remarks

Applicants respond herein to each of the issues raised in the Office Action. Applicants submit that the present application is in form for allowance for at least the reasons more fully discussed below. To expedite the Examiner's consideration of this amendment, Applicants note that the pending rejections, with one exception, correspond to the rejections pending before filing of the Appeal Brief in this matter.

In response, to the Applicants' Appeal Brief, the Office Action, which is non-Final, was mailed, repeating the rejections on appeal and adding Section 112 rejections of Claim 22. At the time of filing of the Appeal Brief, the Examiner had refused to enter the amendments to the claims in Applicants' Amendment After Final mailed September 16, 2005. Accordingly, those amendments are re-presented herein to obviate the Section 101 and 112 rejections previously presented. Applicants' arguments regarding the same are represented below to expedite the Examiner's review. Rather than represent the more lengthy arguments related to the Section 103 rejections, the Applicants' previous amendment mailed September 16, 2005 is incorporated herein in its entirety. Finally, the newly raised Section 112 rejections of Claim 22 are separately addressed below. Should the Applicants' undersigned representative have failed to identify other newly raised issues in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner bring any such issues to the Applicants' attention in any subsequent action issued in this matter.

Rejections Under Section 101:

Claims 3-7, 9-12 and 14-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Office Action, p. 2. While Applicants do not agree with the basis of these rejections, Applicants submit that these rejections are, in any event, obviated by the addition of the phrase "computer implemented" to Claim 14 above as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Rejections Under Section 112:

Claims 9-10, 15, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite, with particular basis for the rejection provided for Claims 15, 19 and 21. Office Action, p. 3.

Applicants submit that this rejection is obviated by the amendments to the claims above. In particular, Claims 15, 19 and 21 have been amended to delete the objected to clause "and/or" and new Claims 23-25 have been added including the deleted portion of the and/or clause recitation in corresponding ones of amended Claims 15, 19 and 21. For the Examiner's reference, Applicants submit that and/or is not indefinite. By way of example "A and/or B" would encompass any of: 1) A; 2) B; and 3) A and B. However, to expedite issuance of the present application, Applicants have deleted references to and/or in the claims.

Newly Raised Rejections of Claim 22:

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Office Action, p. 3. More particularly, the Office Action asserts the "specification lacks the corresponding structure of means for detecting a problem as recited in claim 22." Office Action, p. 3. Claim 22 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as it is "uncertain what 'means' is/are performing the function of 'detecting a problem'." Office Action, p. 4. Thus, both the newly raised Section 112 rejections are based on an assertion that there is no structure disclosed for the function of detecting a problem.

The objected to recitations of Claim 22, in their entirety, state "means for detecting a problem with a selected one of the plurality of policy objects." As described in the background of the present invention, operating systems of computers provide an interface between a user and the computer. Specification, p. 1. Furthermore, in a distributed environment, network objects may be managed by a operating system using a directory service supporting generation and implementation of policies. Specification, pp. 1-2. Thus, a corresponding structure for accessing and controlling policy objects is clearly disclosed, an operating system of a computer. Furthermore, restoring of such policy objects is also disclosed at numerous locations in the specification, including, for example, page 2, lines 16-19. The term "restore" means to "bring back to or put back into a former or original state." Merriam-Websters, pp. 998-999, copy attached hereto. Thus, the reference to restoring, as contrasted with resaving, loading or the like, necessarily discloses that the operating system

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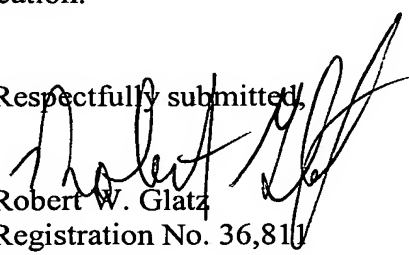
has determined that the policy object has changed to a state that is different from a previous state of the policy object.

The specification further describes that improved methods of managing such policy objects, according to some embodiments of the present invention, are "capable of backing up and restoring the policy objects individually. In the event a group policy object is lost, the administrator need only restore the individual policy object that was deleted or corrupted." Specification, p. 3, lines 20-22. As such, the specification, in addition to describing restoring, references two examples of detected conditions that may cause a change in state of a policy object, deletion or corruption. Thus, Applicants submit the present specification clearly describes computer operating systems as a structure corresponding to the "means for detecting a problem with a selected one of the plurality of policy objects" as recited in Claim 22. Accordingly, the newly presented rejections of Claim 22 under Section 112 should both be withdrawn for at least these reasons.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request allowance of the present application. If further informalities are noted, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone to expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

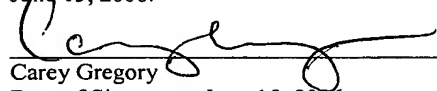

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fr. *L. restrainere* to renew, rebuild, alter, of *instaurare* to renew (14c) 3
GIVE BACK, RETURN 1: to put or bring back into existence or use 2:
to bring back to or put back into a former or original state: RENEW
to put again in possession of something SYN see RENEW — re-
stor-er *n*
re-strain *v* (ri-'strān\ v [ME *restraynen*, fr. MF *restraindre*, fr. L *restrin-*
ere) 1: to restrain, restrict, fr. re- + *stringere* to bind tight — more at
STRAIN (14c) 1 a: to prevent from doing; exhibiting, or expressing
something (~ed the child from jumping) b: to limit, restrict, or keep
under control (try to ~ your anger) 2: to moderate or limit the
under effect, development, or full exercise of (~ trade) 3: to deprive
of liberty; esp: to place under arrest or restraint — re-strain-able
adjective
re-strain-a-bly *adv* — re-strain-er *n*
re-strain RESTRAIN, CHECK, CURB, BRIDLE mean to hold back from or control
something. RESTRAIN suggests holding back by force or per-
suasion from acting or from going to extremes (*restrained themselves*
from laughing). CHECK implies restraining or impeding a progress
activity, or impetus (trying to check government spending). CURB
suggests an abrupt or drastic checking (learn to curb your appetite).
BRIDLE implies using control by subduing or holding in (*bridle*
an impulse to throw the book down).
re-strained *adj* (ri-'strānd\ *adj* (14c): marked by restraint: being without
excess or extravagance — re-strained-ly *adv* — 'strā-nād\ *adv*
re-straining order *n* (ca. 1876) 1: a preliminary legal order some-
times issued to keep a situation unchanged pending decision upon an
application for an injunction 2: a legal order issued against an indi-
vidual to restrict or prohibit access or proximity to another specified
individual
re-straint (ri-'strānt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *restrainte*, fr. *restraindre*] (15c) 1:
an act of restraining: the state of being restrained b (1): a
means of restraining: a restraining force or influence (2): a device
that restricts movement (a ~ for children riding in cars) 2: a control
over the expression of one's emotions or thoughts
re-strict *v* (ri-'strikt\ *v* [L *restringo*, pp. of *restringere*] (1535) 1: to
confine within bounds — restrict *vt* 2: to place under restrictions as to
use or distribution — restrict *vt* — restrict-ly *adv*
re-stricted *adj* (ca. 1828): subject or subjected to restriction: as a
restriction *adj* (15c) 1: LIMITED (the decision had a ~ effect) b: available to
a group of particular groups or specif. excluding others (a ~ country
club) — re-stricted-ly *adv*
re-striction (ri-'strikt-shən\ *n* [ME *restringicioun*, fr. LL *restringen-*
tia, fr. L *restringere*] (15c) 1: something that restricts: as a: a
regulation that restricts or restrains (~s for hunters) b: a limitation
on the use or enjoyment of property or a facility 2: an act of restrict-
ing the condition of being restricted
restriction-enzyme *n* (1965): any of various enzymes that break
DNA into fragments at specific sites in the interior of the molecule —
restriction-enzyme *adjective*
restriction-ism (ri-'strikt-shən\ *n* (1937): a policy or philosophy
favoring restriction (as of trade or immigration) — restriction-ist
n
re-strict *v* (ri-'strikt\ *v* (1579) 1 a: of or relating to restric-
tion: serving or tending to restrict (~ regulations) 2: limiting
the reference of a modified word or phrase 3: prohibiting further
restriction — restrictive *n* — re-strict-ively *adv* — re-strict-ive-
ness *n*
restrictive clause *n* (ca. 1895): a descriptive clause that is essential to
the definiteness of the word it modifies (as *that you ordered* in "the
book that you ordered is out of print")
re-struck (ri-'strukt, 're-ā\ *n* (1899): a coin or medal struck from an
original die at some time after the original issue
rest room *n* (1899): a room or suite of rooms providing toilets and
bathrooms
re-structure (ri-'strukt-shən\ *v* (1942): to change the makeup,
organization, or pattern of — re-structure *v* — re-structure something
re-structure *v* (ri-'strukt\ *v* [ME, fr. ML *restruere*, fr. L, to rebound, fr. re- +
struere to leap — more at SALTATION] (15c) 1 a: to proceed or arise
as a consequence, effect, or conclusion (death ~ed from the disease) b:
to have an issue or result (the disease ~ed in death) 2: REVERT 2
result (1647): 1: something that results as a consequence, issue, or
conclusion: also: beneficial or tangible effect: FRUIT 2: something
obtained by calculation or investigation — re-sult-ful (fəl\ *adj* — re-
sult-less\ *adj*
resultant (ri-'zəl-tənt\ *adj* (1639): derived from or resulting from
something else — re-sult-ant-ly *adv*
resultant (1815): something that results: OUTCOME: specif: the
vector for that is the sum of a given set of vectors
re-sum *v* (ri-'səm\ *v* re-summed; re-sum-ing [ME, fr. MF or L; MF
re-sumere, fr. *resumere*, fr. re- + *sumere* to take up, take — more at
SUM (15c) 1: to assume or take again: REOCCUPY (*resumed*
the job by the fire — Thomas Hardy) 2: to return to or begin again
(*resumed* his work) 3: to take back to oneself 4:
to pick up again 5: REITERATE, SUMMARIZE ~ *vi*: to begin again
something interrupted
re-sume or re-su-me or re-su-mé (ri-'zə-mə, ri-'zə-z\ also 'rā- or 'rā- *n*
[re-sum-er, pp. of *resumere* to resume, summarize, fr. MF *resumer*]
SUMMARY 2: CURRICULUM VITAE
re-sumption (ri-'zəm(p)-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF *resumptio*,
fr. *resumptio* — *resumptio*, fr. L *resumere*] (15c) 1: an act or in-
stance of resuming: RECOMMENCEMENT 2: a return to payment in
full
re-sus-pend (ri-'sū-pə-nānt\ *adj* [L *resuspensatus*, pp. of *resuspensare* to
suspend and to a supine position, fr. re- + *suspensus* supine] (ca. 1776) 1:
position (as of orchid flowers) 2: having or being a fruit-
ing body lying flat on the substrate with the hymenium at the periph-
ery of the whole surface (~ fungus) (~ sporophores)
re-sur-face (ri-'sar-fas\ *v* (1894): to provide with a new or fresh
surface — re-sur-face *v* — re-sur-face (as of the water); broadly
appear or show up again — re-sur-fac-er (fə-'sər\ *n*
re-sur-gence (ri-'sərg-əns\ *n* re-surgenced; re-sur-ging [L *resurgere*] (1575): to
arise again
re-sur-gence (ri-'sərg-ən(t)s\ *n* (ca. 1834): a rising again into life, ac-
cording to Christian doctrine: RENASCENCE

re-sur-gent \ 'rɛ-ʒənt/ adj [L *resurgens*, *resurgens*, prp. of *resurgere*] (1808)
1: undergoing or tending to produce resurgence
re-sur-rect \ 'rɛ-zə-'rɛkt/ vt [back-formation fr. *resurrection*] (1772) 1
: to raise from the dead 2: to bring to view, attention, or use again
re-sur-rec-tion \ 'rɛ-zə-'rɛk-shən/ n [ME, fr. LL *resurrection-*, *resurrectio* act of rising from the dead, fr. *resurgere* to rise from the dead, fr. L, to rise again, fr. *re-* + *surgere* to rise — more at SURGE] (14c) 1 a
: the rising of Christ from the dead b often cap: the rising again to
life of all the human dead before the final judgment c: the state of
one risen from the dead 2: RESURGENCE, REVIVAL 3 *Christian Science*
: a spiritualization of thought: material belief that yields to spiritual
understanding — re-sur-rec-tion-al \ -shənəl, -shə-nəl/ adj
re-sur-rec-tion-ist \ -ʃə-'nɪst/ n (1776) 1: BODY SNATCHER 2: one
who resurrects
re-sus-ci-tate \ 'rɪ-sə-'sɪ-tāt/ vb -tat-ed; -tat-ing [L *resuscitatus*, pp. of
resuscitare to awaken, fr. *re-* + *suscitare* to rouse, fr. *sub*, *sup-* +
citare to put in motion, stir — more at SUB, CITE] vt (1532) 1: to vivify
from apparent death or from unconsciousness; also: REVITALIZE ~
COMES TO LIFE re-sus-ci-ta-tion \ 'rɪ-sə-'sɪ-tā-shən, -tē-~ n — re-sus-
ci-ta-tive \ 'rɪ-sə-'sɪ-tā-tɪv/ adj
re-sus-ci-ta-tor \ 'rɪ-sə-'sɪ-tə-tər/ n (ca. 1843) 1: one that resuscitates;
specif.: an apparatus used to restore respiration (as to a partially as-
phyxiated person)
ret \ 'rɛt/ vb retted; ret-ting [ME, fr. MD] vt (14c): to soak (as flax)
to loosen the fiber from the woody tissue ~ vi: to become retted
re-ta-ble \ 'rɛ-tə-bəl, -rē-~ n [F, fr. MF, modif. of OProv *retaule*, alter.
of *retable*, ultim. fr. L *retro* + *tabula* board, tablet] (ca. 1823) : a
raised shelf above an altar for the altar cross, the altar lights, and flowers
re-tail \ 'rɛ-tāl, esp for 2 also rɪ-'tā(ə-) vb [ME, fr. MF *retailier* to cut
back, divide into pieces, fr. OF, fr. *re-* + *tailier* to cut — more at TAIL-
LOR] vt (15c) 1: to sell in small quantities directly to the ultimate
consumer 2: TELL, RETELL ~ vi: to sell at retail — re-tail-er n
re-tail \ 'rɛ-tāl, n (15c): the sale of commodities or goods in small
quantities to ultimate consumers; also: the industry of such selling —
at retail 1: at a retailer's price 2: 'RETAIL
re-tail \ 'rɛ-tāl, adj (1601) 1: of, relating to, or engaged in the sale of
commodities in small quantities; trade
re-tail \ 'rɛ-tāl, adj (1784): in small quantities: from a retailer
re-tail-ing \ 'rɛ-tā-lɪŋ/ n (14c): the activities involved in the selling of
goods to ultimate consumers for personal or household consumption
re-tain \ 'rɪ-tān/ vt [ME *retēinen*, *retainen*, fr. MF *retenir*, fr. L *retinēre*
to hold back, keep, restrain, fr. *re-* + *tenēre* to hold — more at THIN] (15c) 1 a: to keep in possession or use b: to keep in one's pay or
service; specif.: to employ by paying a retainer c: to keep in mind or
memory: REMEMBER 2: to hold secure or intact ~ SYN see KEEP
retained object n (ca. 1904): an object of a verb in the predicate of a
passive construction (as *me* in "a book was given *me*" and *book* in "I
was given a book")
re-tain-er \ 'rɪ-'tā-nər/ n (1540) 1 a: a person attached or owing
service to a household; esp: SERVANT b: EMPLOYEE 2: one that re-
tains 3: any of various devices used for holding something
retainer n [ME *retēiner* act of withholding, fr. *retēinen* + AF-er (as in
weyver waiver)] (1775) 1: the act of a client by which the services of a
lawyer, counselor, or adviser are engaged 2: a fee paid to a lawyer or
professional adviser for advice or services or for a claim on services
re-take \ 'rɛ-'tāk/ vt -took \ -'tʊk/; -tak-en \ -'tā-kən/; -tak-ing \ (15c)
1: to take or receive again 2: RECAPTURE 3: to photograph again
re-take \ 'rɛ-'tāk/ n (1916): a subsequent filming, photographing, or
recording undertaken to improve upon the first; also: an instance of
this
re-tal-i-ate \ 'rɪ-'tā-lē-āt/ vb -at-ed; -at-ing [LL *retaliatus*, pp. of *retali-
are*, fr. L *re-* + *talio* legal retaliation] vt (1611): to repay (as an in-
jury) in kind ~ vi: to return like for like; esp: to get revenge ~ SYN
see RECIPROCATOR — re-tal-i-a-tion \ 'rɪ-'tā-lē-ā-shən, -tē-~ n — re-tal-i-
a-tive \ 'rɪ-'tā-lē-ā-tɪv/ adj — re-tal-i-a-to-ry \ 'rɪ-'tāl-yə-tō-rē, -'tā-lē-
-tō-rē/ adj
re-tard \ 'rɪ-'tārd/ vb [ME, fr. MF or L; MF *retard*, fr. L *retardare*, fr. *re-*
re- + *tardus* slow] vt (15c) 1: to slow up esp. by preventing or hinder-
ing advance or accomplishment: IMPEDE 2: to delay academic
progress by failure to promote ~ vi: to undergo retardation ~ SYN see
DELAY — re-tard-er n
re-tard \ 'rɛ-'tārd/ n (1881) 1: 're-tārd/ a holding back or slowing down: RE-
TARDATION 2: 're-tārd/ a retarded person; also: a person held to
resemble a retarded person in behavior — often taken to be offensive
re-tar-dant \ 'rɪ-'tārd-'dnt/ adj (1642): serving or tending to retard (a
growth-retardant substance) — retardant n
re-tar-date \ 'rɪ-'dāt, -dāt/ n (1915): a mentally retarded person
re-tar-da-tion \ 'rɪ-'dāt-'dā-shən, -rɪ-~ n (15c) 1: an act or instance of
retarding 2: the extent to which something is retarded 3: a musical
suspension; specif.: one that resolves upward 4 a: an abnormal
slowness of thought or action; also: less than normal intellectual com-
petence usu. characterized by an IQ of less than 70 b: slowness in
development or progress
re-tard-ed \ 'rɪ-'tārd-'dɛd/ adj (1895): slow or limited in intellectual, or
emotional development or academic progress
retch \ 'rɛch, esp Brit 'rɛch/ vb [assumed] ME *rechen* to spit,retch, fr. L
OE *hræcan* to spit, hawk; akin to ON *hrækja* to spit] vt (ca. 1798)
: vomit 1: vi: to make an effort to vomit; also: VOMIT ~
retch \ 'rɛch, 'rā-~ n, blood vessels or nerves: PLEXUS 2: an anatomical
part resembling or including a network
re-tell \ 'rɛ-'tɛl/ vt -told \ -'tɔld/; -tell-ing (1593) 1: to tell again or
in another form 2: to count again
re-tell-ing n (1883): a new version of a story (a ~ of a Greek legend)
re-ten-tion \ 'rɪ-'tɛn-(tə-'shən) n [ME *retencioun*, fr. L *retentio*-, *retentio*,
-

\ə/ about \ʔ/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ā/ mop, mar
 \aʊ/ out \ch/ chin \et/ bet \ē/ easy \g/ go \i/ hit \ī/ ice \j/ job
 \ŋ/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \oi/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ū/ loot \ū/ foot
 \y/ yet \zh/ vision \ā, ē, ē, œ, ue, ū, see Guide to Pronunciation

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